

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF RADIOCARBON DATING*

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The scope of the problems which are involved in the determination of radiocarbon dates renders complete, or detailed, classification of the published results of the research most complicated. In assembling this bibliography several such classifications were discarded before the present simplified one emerged. It was found, for example, that in a detailed classification of subject titles a large number of papers would have to be listed under several, sometimes as many as four, different headings. This complicated and lengthened the listing and also materially increased the chance of inaccurately locating a title. In such an event it would be "lost" to all but the most meticulous searcher. The reduction in the number of subject headings is open to criticism. We suspect, however, that these are answered by the simplicity of the present outline.

The primary heading here is "Method". Under this have been entered titles of articles which contributed to the development and recent ramifications of the method. It was appropriate to include analyses of cosmic ray flux, the carbon dioxide cycle, phenomena related to atomic bomb explosions, discussions of instrumentation, and so on. Some of the early papers by Libby and a few others are important historically as well as for other reasons. There has been a concentrated attempt to list all of the most significant works and as many as possible which treat of details of the background, development and operation of the method.

The section including lists of dates requires no comment except to say that added to the formal lists are titles reporting dates not yet published in a list. There is a chance of duplication here but it is better to err in this direction than to miss an interesting or important determination.

The sections on the use and interpretation of the significance of the dates will never be satisfactory, even to the compiler. It is patently impossible to list all the papers which employ radiocarbon dates. It is probable that during the past eight or ten years every paper dealing with a Pleistocene or post-Pleistocene event, be it geologic or archaeologic, has in some way made use of the results of the method.

In this generalized and necessarily restricted bibliography an attempt has been made to provide a significant title for every area which has been the subject of chronological study. We have also tried to supply titles which represent different types of discussion, or, shall we say, ideas concerning the manner in which dates may be employed. It must be emphasized that the selection is entirely personal and, somewhat illogically, is sometimes influenced by journals, or even reprints, which may be at hand. This section, certainly, will only be tolerably satisfactory.

I wish to acknowledge the assistance of Dr. W. F. Libby who made it possible to list his interesting and important collection of publications, reprints, and other papers. I am also deeply indebted to Dr. Hilde Levi who was the

first to struggle with the bibliographic problem. In order to avoid long periods of searching in special libraries, I have shamelessly copied a number of titles from her two published lists and thus added details which might not otherwise have appeared here.

* All entries in this bibliography have been scrutinized by E. S. Deevey and L. J. Gralenski, who have added some and rearranged others, and have taken special pains to insure that the checklist of date lists (Section I) is a complete listing of primary sources of radiocarbon dates. Entries marked with an asterisk (*) have not been collated with the original publications. There is room for difference of opinion, in the other sections, as to which articles are "significant", and many of the additions reflect this, but no deletions, other than privately circulated manuscripts, have been made from Mr. Johnson's list. The bibliographies of Hilde Levi (1955, 1957) contain many more entries related to the sections on Interpretation [The Editors].

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